

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – AREA BOARD 2

MEETING MINUTES for APRIL 12-13, 2012

Oxford Suites, Redding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marie L. Blair
Verdine Mertens
Jean Phillips
Rosie Ryan
Colleen Ryberg
Steven Sharpe
Larry Stevens
Mike Yalow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Debbie Anderson
Stephen Concklin
Leroy Shipp

OTHERS PRESENT

AJ Barker
Robert Brown
Kathy Bogue
Ryan Duncanwood
Roger Hatton
LeAnn Huston
Laura Larson
Michelle Phillips
Jessica Noble
Brandi Seaters

STAFF PRESENT

Lisa Aaron-Miller
Sarah May

1. CALL TO ORDER – April 12, 2012 – 1:05 p.m. – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

Established a quorum present at 1:05 p.m.

3. INTRODUCTIONS – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

Introduction - All members and guests present introduced themselves.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steven Sharpe, Chair, requested all cell phones please be silenced during the AB2 meeting. Ryan Duncanwood, Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) Representative, reported he recently attended the national SABE board meeting in Las Vegas in February. The board met with Sharon Lewis, from ADD, and the two discussed strengthening relationships between ADD and SABE. SABE also plans on putting more effort toward educating self-advocates about SABE. Robert Brown shared the Shasta Family Justice Center will be hosting a sock-hop dance for the agency's annual fundraiser and he brought tickets for anyone who was interested in attending.

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Robert Brown gave an update on Shasta County SELPA's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) "Annual Appreciation Dinner on March 15th." The event was attended by 232 people well above prior average attendance that had been between 60-65 individuals. He also shared 30 awards were awarded to persons involved with special education including one 4th grade special education student who nominated her peer and classmate.

6. ACTION ITEMS – Steven Sharpe, *Chair

***A.** Approval of April 12-13, 2012 Agenda –

MOTION – Scheduled agenda items were changed to facilitate board business.

M/S/C – M. Yalow/V. Mertens/Passed Unanimously

***B.** Approval of February 9-10, 2012 Minutes

MOTION – The minutes were approved as written.

M/S/C – M. Yalow/M. Blair/Passed Unanimously

***C.** FNRC Conflict of Interest Waiver

MOTION – Recommend to approve the Conflict of Interest Waiver request for Michelle Phillip's appointment to the Far Northern Regional Center Board of Directors.

M/S/C – V. Mertens/M. Yalow/Passed Unanimously

7. CORRESPONDENCE – Colleen Ryberg, 2nd Vice-Chair

Colleen Ryberg, 2nd Vice-Chair, read a letter, dated 02/13/12, from Ruth Cowan with Rowell Family Empowerment of Northern California thanking the board for the opportunity to present at the February board meeting. She also read the reappointment memo, dated 02/15/12, from the County of Siskiyou Board of Supervisors' re-appointing Stephen Concklin as their representative to the Area Board 2.

8. FAR NOTHERN REGIONAL CENTER – Laura Larson, FNRC

Laura Larson, Executive Director, shared concern regarding recent incidents of consumers being hit by vehicles which has resulted in two deaths. The regional center has created a program, "Pedestrian Safety Awareness," designed for both consumers and service providers. The program's message is clear that pedestrians need to stop, look, and listen, and take personal responsibility while walking in one's community. Training is available as well as Mains' 7th Street Centre for the Arts has created a safety video that is posted on U-Tube as well as a DVD will be made available to the community. She also discussed a proposal "The Way Forward for Regional Centers" (7/27/11) developed by several regional centers in the southern part of state to address the current situation faced by the community service system. This includes budget cuts and how cuts continue to affect regional center staff and consumers and asking what changes or services the community wants from the regional center system. Laura shared this is a draft document and therefore Far Northern Regional Center's board of directors only discussed the proposal without taking any position. She also briefly discussed the 8 million reduction in the Department of Developmental Services' budget and how it will impact services and supports for consumers. Laura also shared beginning in July, families' private health insurance will now pay for Autism care and support; however, there will still be some services provided by the regional center depending on the needs of the individual consumer. She reported FNRC recently went through a Medicaid waiver review and she is confident Far Northern is in compliance. Laura reported Caminar, a long-time provider in Butte County, will be discontinuing their Independent Living Services (ILS) program at the end of April as a result of budget cuts. Staff and clients were notified, and FNRC has a plan in place to support staff and clients who want to continue working together. She also shared a concern regarding care homes not having enough food in their homes. FNRC will provide training on healthy food planning and purchasing foods while on a budget. The training will also offer information to providers on how to plant a home garden to supplement food budgets, and offer additional healthy food options for their residents.

9. COUNTY UPDATES – EMERGING ISSUES/NEEDS/RESOURCES – All Members

Butte County – Steve Sharpe, announced he and [REDACTED], took funds belonging to the Oroville Chapter of People First for their personal use. Steven noted that the chapter is dealing with this and making decisions on how to best handle the situation. Board members expressed they would like to receive an update on this matter at the next board meeting in June.

Glenn County – Mike Yalow reported The Rusty Wagon wants to expand to include possibly hiring additional associates and Candice Spielman, Program Coordinator, personally requested Mike's assistance with the possible expansion. He also shared The Rusty Wagon currently has 90 vendors providing supplies and products and the four associates working there are doing well. Mike also shared he is working on a project with a private enterprise that will create jobs in Glenn County.

Jean Phillips shared her daughter will be getting married this April in Orland.

Shasta County – Marie Blair shared due to recent budget cuts the local MediCal clinic, in Cottonwood, has closed down and as a result she is having trouble having her prescriptions refilled. She is concerned how the closing of the clinic not only affects her and her family but others who also relied on this particular medical provider.

Rosie Ryan reminded the board she will be a Keynote speaker at the upcoming Region 2 People

First Conference in May, and that she and two other self-advocates will be conducting a presentation on budgeting. She also shared the Consumer Abuse Awareness Team (CAAT) like FNRC is also addressing pedestrian safety and reminding individuals for the need to be safe and alert while out in public.

Tehama County – *Larry Stevens* reported on the State Council's Self Advocacy Website and encouraged the board to check out the resources on the site including "Work is for All" designed to educate the public on employing persons with disabilities. He also shared the TCCC's collaborative project, Focus Film's screening "For Once In My Life" on March 9th at the Red Bluff Community Center was a success and 120 persons attended this event.

Verdine Mertens reported TCCC is working on the upcoming "Emergency Preparedness Faire" and the "Circle of Champions" luncheon and award ceremony both taking place in May, and the committee will be meeting to go over the nominees for the awards ceremony. She also reiterated the Focus Film's screening "For Once In My Life" was a wonderful event and she stated Larry did a great job assisting with the screening.

Trinity County – *Colleen Ryberg* reported long time superintendent and special education professional, Jim French, will be retiring on June 30th. She shared Mr. French was an advocate for home schooling and special education and he will be missed by the community. Colleen also shared applications are being solicited for an interim superintendent to be hired by the Trinity County School Board and the official position will not be chosen until 2014 through an election process.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – Sarah May, AB2 Executive Director

a. Community Program Specialist II Recruitment Update – Sarah provided an update on the Community Program Specialist II recruitment process. She shared the area board received 10 applications and five persons were interviewed. Sarah reported the interview panel consisted of herself, Lisa Aaron-Miller, and a member of the DAT Team. Two candidates have been scheduled for a second-round interview to take place on 4/20/12. Sarah shared she wants to have a person hired by 6/1/12.

b. SCDD Program Development Grant (PDG) Cycle 35 Report – Sarah reported Area Boards will be allotted 20k in grant funding for up to two local projects. Criteria for Requests for Proposals (RFP) must relate to SCDD's State Plan or have an emphasis on employment. Sarah shared the timeline for RFP's is 5/25/12-6/25/12. She facilitated a discussion regarding the board's oversight of this process and it was decided to support the appointment of the Executive Committee be responsible for this year's grant cycle. This item will be included on the 6/7/12 agenda for the board to officially take action on the Executive Committee overseeing Cycle 35.

c. Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) – Sarah reported she attended the first Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) on 4/11/12 and she is very excited about this new project. She shared AB2's SSAN representative is Ricky Sedillos a strong self-advocate who has experience serving on several boards including FNRC and a local People First chapter. The purpose of this new project is to promote self-advocacy on a national level and for SCDD and area boards to work with a variety of collaborators including ARCA, Disability Rights California, Independent Living Centers, and University Systems to name a few. The responsibility of the AB2 representative will include reporting to AB2, FNRC, People First, and local senior and disability groups on SSAN and gather information on local issues to share with the network. SSAN members are required to have knowledge of modern communication technologies including SKYPE, Internet, and

computer skills as the network plans on using Green Technology to facilitate future meetings and dissemination of information.

d. Regional Self-Advocacy Projects – Sarah reported on a variety of meetings she has attended including BCCC, SCCC, and TCCC as well as SCCD's Board of Directors and Executive Directors meeting. She continues to be very busy with advocacy and is currently working with five new families on IEP's. Sarah shared the feedback from families has been positive and the area board is making a difference and is appreciated. She was pleased to report one parent assisted by AB2 has been hired by Rowell Family Empowerment of Northern California as a Parent Liaison and is now responsible for advocating for families with school system and other issues. Sarah was very complimentary of TCCC's and Focus Film Festival's collaboration on the screening of "For Once in My Life," and she was pleased by the turnout. She also reported she is on the planning committee for Butte and Glenn's SELPA's Annual Transition Faire for students exploring post-secondary education opportunities, and she will be hosting a table at the event on 4/17/12 in Chico. Sarah shared the DAT Team was selected as a presenter at the upcoming Region 2 People First Conference in May as well as the team was asked to be part of the conference's resource fair. DAT members are excited about this event and have raised enough funds to create new t-shirts and a banner for the conference.

9. WE CARE A LOT FOUNDATION – PATHFINDER PROGRAM

Roger Hatton and Jessica Noble provided information and showed a PowerPoint Presentation about WCALF's Pathfinder Program. They are employed as Life Guides and facilitate visits to help people with developmental disabilities create a Life Plan. Life Plans are tools that aid people in planning what services and supports they need to live successful lives. Life Plans help people learn more about themselves and help support persons and Service Coordinators learn more about how the person wants to be supported as well as what is working and not working in a person's life. Life Plans are designed to be complimentary to the IPP. The processes of conducting a Life Plan are confidential; however, the Life Guides are mandated reporters and must report any health or safety issue as required by law. Success stories were shared about the changes people have made in their lives and shared the evolution of the program since 2004 and how much more information the plans include to date. Any person, 18 year of age and up, who receives services from FNRC is eligible for services through Pathfinder Program by a referral from their service coordinator. More information can be explored through the programs' website: www.wecarealot.org

10. RECESS 5:10 P.M. UNTIL 9:00 A.M. FRIDAY, April 13th at Oxford Suites, Redding

1. CALL TO ORDER – April 13, 2012 – 9:05 a.m. – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

Established a quorum present at 9:05 a.m.

3. INTRODUCTIONS – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

All introduced themselves.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Steven Sharpe, *Chair*

Steven Sharpe, Chair, requested all cell phones please be silenced during the AB2 meeting.

5. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

6. SCDD REPORT – Sarah May, *AB2 Executive Director*

Sarah May, Executive Director, reported on the 3/21/12 SCDD Council meeting. Molly Kennedy, Council Member, and Mark Starford, Consultant Board Resource Center, offered training and a PowerPoint Presentation, "Boards for All Training Program" designed to educate the public and boards on basic boardsmanship and responsibilities. A copy of the presentation was provided in AB2's packet for the board to review. Melissa Corral, Staff Counsel provided trainings to SCDD's board on Bagley-Keene Public Meeting Act and this will be the same presentation she will be offering to AB2's board in June. Based on the training, Sarah stressed how important it is for AB2's board members to attend scheduled board meetings to facilitate board business by establishing a necessary quorum that is a majority of the board's statutory membership, in AB2's case a quorum is at least eight members in attendance at any board meeting. Sarah reviewed SCDD's Legislative & Public Policy Committee's position (LPPC) on several bills including AB 2338 - Employment First and the Governor's 12/13 budget that the committee has taken a support position on. However, because a quorum was not established SCDD was not able to take any official position on the bills discussed.

7. WE CARE A LOT FOUNDATION Vote! Project

Jessica Noble, Peer-to-Peer Teacher with the Vote! Project, provided information and showed a PowerPoint Presentation regarding WCALF's Vote! Project. The presentation covered the history of voting in the United States and educates the disability community on the importance of voting and how this process can positively affect services, supports, and issues important to the disabled population. Jessica provided an overview on why individuals vote, who can vote, and rules and regulations governing the voting process. She also provided information on available services and supports for persons who may require assistance with the voting process. Jessica stressed the importance between who can help a person vote and who cannot and also that no one can vote on your behalf. She also discussed WCALF's plan in assisting consumers to receive transportation to polling locations on Election Day.

8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Following a board discussion, the following items were agreed upon, by board consensus, to be agenda items at the 6/7/12 – 6/8/12 board meeting in Chico:

- a. Appointment AB2's Executive Committee be responsible for Grant Cycle 35.
- b. Add an additional board meeting scheduled for 6/30/12, in Redding, to accommodate the Executive Committee review and selection of Cycle 35 grants for board approval to finalize the grant process.

9. ADJOURN – 10:25 a.m. Next Meeting ~ June 7-8, 2012 – Oxford Suites in Chico